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## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A read-out image is acquired by covering an image storage sheet, which contains a color image, with an image storage sheet pushing surface of a platen cover and reading out an image of a region on the image storage sheet pushing surface of the platen cover, the region on the image storage sheet pushing surface containing the image storage sheet. A region corresponding to the image storage sheet in the read-out image is then recognized. The image storage sheet pushing surface of the platen cover has a color other than colors which are ordinarily contained in image storage sheets. The region corresponding to the image storage sheet is recognized by judging that a pixel in the read-out image, which pixel represents a color different from the color of the image storage sheet pushing surface of the platen cover, is a pixel falling within the region corresponding to the image storage sheet.